

1	2	3	4
28.	V.K. Gupta	Jammu & Kashmir	Calcutta
29.	R.P. Gupta	Calcutta	Madhya Pradesh
30.	J.C. Verma	Punjab & Haryana	Rajasthan
31.	J.S. Sidhu	Allahabad	Rajasthan
32.	A.P. Singh	Allahabad	Gauhati
33.	S.C. Saraf	Gauhati	Allahabad
34.	T.N. Vallinayagam	Madras	Karnataka
35.	S. Marimuthu	Madras	Kerala
36.	Dipak Misra	Orissa	Madhya Pradesh

Import of Newsprint

5426. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI:

SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries from which the newsprint has been imported during each of the last three years alongwith quantity of paper imported and the foreign exchange spent thereon, year-wise; and

(b) the effect of these imports on the indigenous industries?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Newsprint is imported mainly from USA, Canada, Russia, China, Germany, Sweden etc. The import of newsprint during the last three years has been as under:-

Year	Quantity (lakh tonnes)	Value (Rs. Crore)
1994-95	2.92	489.60
1995-96	3.45	1005.22
1996-97	5.25	1028.22

(1.4.96 to 28.2.97)

(b) Indigenous newsprint manufacturing industry has been facing problems due to declining prices of newsprint internationally and consequent availability of imported newsprint at lower rates. The estimated demand for the newsprint in the country is 6.80 lac tonnes, and installed capacity is 7.68 lac tonnes. Thus imports of 5.25 lac tonnes has adversely affected the viability of existing units.

[English]

Cotton Export Quota

5427. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHAL RAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has urged the Union Government to release further export quota of two lakh bales in favour of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) During the 1996-97 cotton season till 9/4/1997, the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Ltd. have been allotted an export quota of 1 lakh bales. Allocations are considered after taking into account all relevant factors, including estimates of production, availability, consumption, likely surplus, price trends, etc.

[Translation]

Balance of Trade

5428. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import has increased;

(b) if so, the details of import and export made during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 with its value thereof, country-wise;

(c) whether the import of Petroleum and Petroleum products has increased during the above period;

(d) if so, the details of its percentage out of the total import made during the above period with its value thereof; and

(e) the reasons for increase in import and the facilities provided by the Government to promote the import during the above period?